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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/524,257

02/10/2005

Daniel Lee Reneau

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EXAMINER

TRAN, THUY V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/03/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,257

Applicant(s)

RENEAU, DANIEL LEE

Examiner

Thuy V. Tran

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/10/2005 & prel. amendment conc. filed.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/10/05.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the Applicant's communication filed on 02/10/2005 and preliminary amendment concurrently filed therewith. In virtue of this amendment, claims 1-20 are currently presented in the instant application.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 02/10/2005 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings Objection

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(b) because they are incomplete. 37 CFR 1.83(b) reads as follows:

When the invention consists of an improvement on an old machine the drawing must when possible exhibit, in one or more views, the improved portion itself, disconnected from the old structure, and also in another view, so much only of the old structure as will suffice to show the connection of the invention therewith.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet"

Art Unit: 2821

pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance ^{See NOTES}.

NOTES: (i) The drawing illustration should be in consistency with the details provided in the specification; and

(ii) The Figure should not be labeled as Fig. 1 since only one Figure in the drawing. In this case, no label is needed.

Specification Objection

3. The specification of the disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 1, line 4, --- should be inserted after "AKB"; and

Pages 2 and 3, "Fig. 1" should be replaced with --the Figure--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Amendments to specification and abstract

4. The amendments to the specification and the abstract of the disclosure submitted on 02/10/2005 are accepted.

Claim Objections/ Minor Informalities

5. Claims 5, 10, and 13 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 5, line 3, "the" (first occurrence) should be changed to --a--; and "may be" should be changed to --is--;

Claim 10, line 13, "the" (first occurrence) should be changed to --a--; and

Claim 13, line 3, "the" (first occurrence) should be changed to --a--; and "may be" should be changed to --is--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-3, 6-11, are 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Griepentrog (U.S. Patent No. 6,285,401 B1).

With respect to claim 1, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, a current reduction circuit that reduces offset current from at least one driver circuit, the current reduction circuit comprising (1) circuitry [18, 20, 22] that measures the offset current and produces a measurement current [28, 30, 32] (see col. 3, lines 64-66), and (2) circuitry [200] that receives the measurement current [28, 30, 32] and responds by maintaining an auto kine bias measurement voltage within a predetermined range (see col. 4, lines 1-15).

With respect to claim 2, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, that the at least one driver circuit comprises three cathode ray tube (CRT) driver circuits [18, 20, 22], each of the CRT driver circuits corresponding to a color beam (which is red R or green G or blue B) in a CRT display device.

With respect to claim 3, Griepentrog discloses that each of the CRT driver circuits comprises a Philips TDA6120 CRT drive integrated circuit (see col. 3, lines 42-44).

With respect to claim 6, Griepentrog discloses that the predetermined range is between 0.8 and 1.6 volts (see col. 7, line 53; which is within the claimed range of -0.5 and 3.0 volts).

With respect to claim 7, Griepentrog discloses that the circuitry that measures the offset current comprises a circuit [34] that generates a reference voltage that is compared to a signal corresponding to the offset current to generate the measurement current (see col. 4, lines 1-16).

With respect to claim 8, Griepentrog discloses that the current reduction circuit inherently comprises a portion of a television (since it relates to or parts of television receiver systems, see col. 1, line 18).

With respect to claim 9, Griepentrog discloses that the offset current has a maximum range of -120 to $+360$ microamperes (which includes the claimed range of ± 90 microamperes; see col. 7, line 51).

With respect to claim 10, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, a CRT display device that is adapted to display images comprising (1) a CRT, (2) three driver circuits [18, 20, 22], each of the three driver circuits being associated with a color beam (which is red R or green G or blue B) adapted to create an image on the CRT, each of the three driver circuits producing a signal indicative of an offset current [28, 30, 32], (3) a circuit [34] that generates a reference voltage, (4) a differential amplifier that receives the reference voltage and the signal indicative of the offset current from the three driver circuits and responds by producing a differential output that is proportional to the difference between the reference voltage and a signal corresponding to the offset current from the driver circuits (see col. 4, lines 12-16), and (5) circuitry [200] that receives the differential output and responds by maintaining an auto kine bias measurement voltage within a predetermined range (see Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 1-16).

With respect to claim 11, Griepentrog discloses that each of the CRT driver circuits comprises a Philips TDA6120 CRT drive integrated circuit (see col. 3, lines 42-44).

With respect to claim 14, Griepentrog discloses that the predetermined range is between 0.8 and 1.6 volts (see col. 7, line 53; which is within the claimed range of -0.5 and 3.0 volts).

With respect to claim 15, Griepentrog discloses that the current reduction circuit inherently comprises a portion of a television (since it relates to or parts of television receiver systems, see col. 1, line 18).

With respect to claim 16, Griepentrog discloses that the offset current from the driver circuits has a total maximum range of -120 to $+360$ microamperes (which includes the claimed range of ± 90 microamperes; see col. 7, line 51).

With respect to claim 17, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, a current reduction circuit and a corresponding method of reducing offset current from at least one driver circuit, the method comprising (1) measuring an offset current associated with the at least one driver circuit (via circuitry [18, 20, 22]), (2) producing a measurement current [28, 30, 32] in response to the measurement of the offset current (see col. 3, lines 64-66), and (3) employing the measurement current to maintain an auto kine bias measurement voltage within a predetermined range (via circuitry [200]; see col. 4, lines 1-15).

With respect to claim 18, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, generating a reference voltage (see col. 4, line 14).

With respect to claim 19, Griepentrog discloses comparing the reference voltage to a signal proportional to the offset current (see col. 4, lines 12-16).

With respect to claim 20, Griepentrog discloses, in Fig. 1, that the recited acts as expressed above are performed in the recited order.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 4-5 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Griepentrog.

With respect to claims 4-5 and 12-13, Griepentrog discloses all of the claimed limitations, as expressly recited above in claims 1 and 10, including a Toshiba TA1276N for receiving the auto kine bias measurement voltage (see col. 6, line 46), but does not teach the use of a Toshiba TA1316AN integrated circuit. However, this difference is not of patentable merit since both are used for signal processing and have certain similar characteristics such as low input voltage levels. Therefore, to employ the Toshiba TA1316AN integrated circuit, in lieu of the Toshiba TA1276N, in the current reduction circuit of Griepentrog as a receiving IC upon a particular application or environment of use would have been deemed obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Citation of relevant prior art

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Prior art Allender (U.S. Patent No. 6,894,445 B2) discloses a CRT phosphor protection system;

Prior art Sengoku (U.S. Patent No. 4,748,497) discloses a television receiver;

Art Unit: 2821

Prior art Craig et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,660,093) discloses a television receiver with delayed display;

Prior art Shanley, II (U.S. Patent No. 4,549,203) discloses a DC stabilization system; and

Prior art Parker (U.S. Patent No. 4,484,229) discloses an automatic kinescope bias control system.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

04/29/2007



THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER